increase farmers' income and create employment opportunities in rural sector. Mega Food Park envisages a well-defined agri/horticultural-processing zone containing state of the art processing facilities with support infrastructure and well established supply chain. Under the scheme financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid upto 50% of the project cost in general areas and up to 75% of the project cost in special category States subject to a maximum of Rs. 50.00 Crores or the cost of approved facilities, whichever is lower, has been envisaged for all implementing agencies. The scheme is under finalization in consultation with Planning Commission. So far, MFPI has not provided financial assistance for setting up of any Mega food park in the country.

Food processing parks in Madhya Pradesh

†2768. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA:
SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Government have planned to set up food processing parks in several States;

(b) the places in Madhya Pradesh where these parks would be set up;

(c) the outlines of these parks;

(d) the financial cost of the plan, park-wise;

(e) how much amount is incurred in setting up of one food processing park; and

(f) the number of such parks functioning in the country, at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAI): (a) to (f) Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI), has been providing financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid for setting up of Food Park under its Plan scheme @ 25% of project cost in general areas and 33.33% of project cost in difficult areas, subject to maximum of Rs. 4.00 crore for creation of common facilities such as power supply, water supply, cold storage, warehousing facilities, effluent treatment plant, food testing analytical laboratories, common processing facilities etc. The Ministry does not set up food parks on its own. The Ministry has approved financial assistance for 56 food parks in the country, out of which 29 are considered operational. The cost of setting up Food Park varies from project to project depending on various factors such as location, size, common facilities, etc. MFPI has approved financial assistance of Rs. 23.81 crore for six (6) food parks in Madhya Pradesh as per details given below:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Sl. No.	Location of Food Park	Project Cost (Rs. in Lakhs)	Approved MFPI grant (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4
1.	Jaggakhedi, District Mandsaur,	815.08	381.83
2.	Nimrani, District Khargone	866.36	400.00
3.	Piparia-Babai, District Hoshangabad	820.98	400.00
4.	Borgaon, District Chhindwara	837.65	400.00
5.	Malanpur-Ghirongi, District Bhind	801.52	400.00
6.	Maneri, District Mandla	832.64	400.00

Consortium for food parks

2769. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a consortium has been set up to create food parks; and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAI): (a) and (b) Although Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI) does not set up food parks on its own, it has been providing financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid for setting up of Food Park under its Plan scheme @ 25% of project cost in general areas and 33.33% of project cost in difficult areas, subject to maximum of Rs. 4.00 crore for creation of common facilities such as power supply, water supply, cold storage, warehousing facilities, effluent treatment plant, food testing analytical laboratories, common processing facilities etc. The Ministry has approved financial assistance for 56 food parks in the country. MFPI has not set up any consortium to create food parks.

Education cess on HSD

2770. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are levying education cess on HSD for implementing Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Programme;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that United Kingdom, European Community and World Bank are also providing soft loan and grants to, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Programme;

(c) if so, the details of the allocations to the States and UTs since inception of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Programme; and